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OTTAWA • WEDNESDAY MAY 20 2009

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# Energy Conservation Week

May 17-23, 2009

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Energy Conservation Week is an initiative of:

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# 100 ENERGY SAVING IDEAS

**AT HOME For Homeowners: I pledge to...** 1. Schedule an energy audit of my home – and act on the results. 2. Have my central air conditioning and furnace serviced. 3. Clean my air conditioning unit's condenser of dirt and debris. 4. Clean or replace my furnace filter (especially, if I have central A/C). 5. Install a programmable thermostat. 6. Improve the insulation of my home. 7. Reduce air leakages in my home. 8. Sign up for peaksaver® (if available where I live). 9. Right-size my refrigerator. 10. Get rid of my old energy-guzzling second fridge. 11. Upgrade to ENERGY STAR® windows. 12. Install a solar or tankless/instantaneous hot water heater. 13. Install solar photovoltaic (PV) panels on the rooftop. 14. Install a ground-source heat pump. 15. Get a pool pump timer. 16. Make sure I have a thermal pool blanket. 17. Consider solar panels to heat my pool. 18. Specify that I want my new home to meet ENERGY STAR® standards. 19. Landscape for energy savings.

**For everyone at home: I pledge to...** 20. Use EnerGuide (Natural Resources Canada) ratings. 21. Fight phantom load – unplug electronics that draw power even when they're turned off. 22. Upgrade to ENERGY STAR®-qualified appliances. 23. Adjust the water level on the washing machine. 24. Wash only full loads of laundry. 25. Do my laundry on evenings and weekends. 26. Hang my clothes outside to dry. 27. Clean the lint out of my dryer after each load of laundry. 28. Use a toaster oven or microwave instead of the oven, whenever possible. 29. Opt for an electric frying pan instead of a range top. 30. Try slow cooking. 31. Use pots with tight-fitting lids. 32. Use the oven light to check on my food instead of opening the door. 33. Use an automatic shut-off kettle. 34. Always set my dishwasher to air dry and only run it when full. 35. Allow hot food to cool before placing it in my refrigerator. 36. Thaw my frozen foods in the refrigerator. 37. Vacuum my refrigerator coils to keep them efficient. 38. Use the oven's self-cleaning option after cooking. 39. Make my showers shorter to use less energy and hot water. 40. Install low-flow toilets. 41. Rinse my dishes in a tub of clean water. 42. Fix dripping faucets, especially leaky hot water faucets. 43. Insulate around my water pipes. 44. Install a water heater jacket and low-flow faucet aerators. 45. Use a manual lawnmower. 46. Open a window or use ceiling fan. 47. Set my air conditioner at 25°C when I'm home and 28°C when away. 48. Set my heat/thermostat at 20°C when I'm at home and 18°C overnight. 49. Install solar reflective film on my windows. 50. Use insulated drapes or energy-saving cellular / honeycomb blinds in the winter. 51. Use drapes/blinds, awnings and shades in the summer to keep the heat out. 52. Turn off the monitor if I'm not going to use my computer for more than 20 minutes. 53. Turn off both the monitor and the CPU if I'm not going to use it for more than 2 hours. 54. Turn off my screensaver. 55. Use power bars with on/off switches, automatic shutoff, or integrated timers. 56. Replace my high-use incandescent light bulbs with ENERGY STAR®-qualified compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) wherever it makes sense. 57. Install dimmer switches and use dimmable CFLs. 58. Use task lighting. 59. Place floor lamps or table lamps in corners. 60. Install motion sensors to turn off lights automatically. 61. Keep all air registers/radiators free of obstructions that impede air flow. Have your ducts cleaned out annually. 62. Use LED (light emitting diode) seasonal / celebration lights. 63. Use solar-powered outdoor lights. **FOR PARENTS & CAREGIVERS: I pledge to...** 64. Teach my children good energy conservation habits. 65. Think of ways to reward my kids for good conservation habits. 66. Choose games and toys for my children with energy use in mind. **FOR KIDS... OF ALL AGES: I pledge to...** 67. Turn off the lights whenever I leave a room. 68. Decide what I want before opening the refrigerator door. 69. Turn off televisions, computers, and game consoles when I'm finished using them. 70. Ask my parents about other ways I can help conserve. **FOR TRAVELERS: I pledge to...** 71. Put my indoor and outdoor lights on timers. 72. Put my water heater on the vacation setting, if it has one. 73. Choose green-rated hotels when traveling for business or pleasure. 74. Pull the plug on my battery chargers. **AT SCHOOL: For teachers: I pledge to...** 75. Make energy conservation a classroom commitment. 76. Appoint a classroom energy monitor. 77. Take advantage of daylight. **For students: I pledge to...** 78. Encourage my school, college or university to take conservation seriously. 79. Be a role model for good conservation. 80. Make my school leadership aware of energy waste, wherever and whenever I spot it at school or on campus. **AT WORK: For employers: I pledge to...** 81. Train myself or an employee to become an Energy Conservation Officer. 82. Participate in an OPA commercial demand response program. 83. Organize conservation learning opportunities for the people who work with me. 84. Reward the people who work with me for their innovative, money-saving ideas. 85. Ensure meeting rooms are equipped with light switches. 86. Install light emitting diodes (LEDs) in suitable 24-hour-use locations. 87. Replace my incandescent or fluorescent EXIT signs with LED EXIT signs. 88. Install high-quality electronic ballasts along with T8 florescent tubes. 89. Install new high-performance chillers. 90. Use modular load control technology. 91. Install effective automatic door closers. **For employees: I pledge to...** 92. Turn off meeting room lights when not in use. 93. Dim, turn off or remove lights near windows in the daytime. 94. Use the stairs instead of taking the elevator, if I am able. 95. Unplug coffeemakers, toasters and microwaves. 96. Keep entrance doors closed. 97. Use the revolving doors into my office building. 98. Use standby mode for computers and copiers. 99. Turn all equipment off at the end of the day. 100. Use paper-reducing strategies.



# DOES THE '10 TORCH LOOK LIKE A JOINT?, PG3

## Metro Drive

**Audi shows off its hot new cabriolet**

pg 14



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MAY 20, 2009

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## Equalization pay 'embarrassing': MPP

**TORIES** It's "embarrassing" for Premier Dalton McGuinty to accept \$347 million in equalization payments from the federal government, says Progressive Conservative leadership hopeful Tim Hudak.

But he admits he wouldn't refuse the cash, either.

The MPP for Niagara West-Glanbrook said McGuinty "seems to be simply content with his handout" and is not doing enough to pull Ontario out of recession, and out of the "have-not" status it has acquired under federal equalization rules.

"It's embarrassing with a premier who seems content to run our province on autopilot when we're a have-not province," Hudak said.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

## Charity



**\$31M**

Ottawa 2008 community campaign chairman Sal Iacono, left, and Joan Hight, vice-president, campaigns, celebrate at the announcement of the final community campaign total — \$31,094,525 — yesterday. The total raised shows the generosity of the people of the region and "makes Ottawa a better place for everyone," said chairman of the board of directors Dennis Jackson.

## Isotope shortage likely after shutdown

**CHALK RIVER** Canadian energy authorities have closed a nuclear reactor that produces a third of the world's medical isotopes after a small leak and warned that there could be a shortage of isotopes by as early as Saturday.

Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd. said it shut down the 50-year-old reactor at Chalk River, Ont., late last week after it discovered a small leak of heavy water, used as part of the nuclear reaction process.

It expects the reactor to remain out of operation for more than a month.

Meantime, major isotope producing countries and companies are working co-operatively to address the issue of a possible supply shortage, the Canadian government said.

"A secure supply of medical isotopes is not only an issue for Canada, it is an international issue that is being addressed co-operatively by all isotope-producing countries," Natural Resources Minister Lisa Raitt said.

Raitt said Ottawa was engaging international isotope producers as well as several companies, which she said play key roles in securing medical isotope supply for North America.

REUTERS

## Research

- The isotopes are used in medical research and in some cancer treatments.

## Sunny Side

Follow Metro's SunnySide initiative as we help you find the good news around Ottawa and Canada. This is also a Call to Action for you to send us your suggestions at [ottawalatters@metronews.ca](mailto:ottawalatters@metronews.ca), [metronews.ca](mailto:metronews.ca), or on Twitter @metroottawa.

On [metronews.ca](http://metronews.ca)

- Share your SunnySide thoughts on Twitter using #sunnyside

- See what other Metro readers are doing and saying about SunnySide
- Enter for a chance to win a Sony Blu-ray player Today

- Ottawa enjoying a stable housing market, pg 2
- Word on the street, pg 6
- Bankruptcies on the decline, pg 4



# Date snafu questioned

## O'Brien's lawyer pounces on Kilrea's inconsistency

TIM WIECLAWSKI  
[tim.wieclawski@metronews.ca](mailto:tim.wieclawski@metronews.ca)



**"I was going off of memory. The affidavit, I still maintain, is correct."**

Terry Kilrea

Since his first day in the witness box, Terry Kilrea has maintained that his first meeting with Larry O'Brien took place on July 12, 2006, one week later than the date he named in the sworn affidavit that spurred investigation by the Ontario Provincial Police.

O'Brien's defence lawyer Michael Edelson spent much of yesterday attempting to figure out how Kilrea could have been so sure of the dates when he signed the affidavit in December 2007, but also be so sure that he was mistaken

en almost 17 months later.

"I submit to you, you were reckless in not checking the available documentation in your physical possession which would have permitted you to give a truthful and accurate affidavit," said Edelson, after suggesting that Kilrea should have confirmed those dates.

According to the affidavit, Kilrea said he received a phone call from O'Brien on July 3, 2006.

They met on July 5, and dates of several important subsequent events followed along that timeline.

The OPP investigation resulting from the affidavit resulted in two criminal charges against O'Brien in connection with allegations that he attempted to get Kilrea appointed to the National Parole Board in exchange for Kilrea dropping out of the 2006 mayoral campaign.

Kilrea said that he's always stated that the dates could have been "a week out," and said he may not have had access to emails he sent to O'Brien and Ottawa-West Nepean MP John Baird about the incidents.

"I was going off of mem-

ory," said Kilrea. "The affidavit, I still maintain, is correct."

Yesterday's proceedings began with Justice Douglas Cunningham ruling that "it was not inappropriate" for Edelson to allege, last Thursday, that Baird told Kilrea that he was not qualified for a parole board appointment when the two met on July 19, 2006.

Kilrea says the parole board appointment never came up. Shortly after Edelson made that assertion, Baird's office released a statement confirming Kilrea's version of events.

Kilrea will be back on the stand when the trial resumes this morning.

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This year's Boston Marathon winner is setting his sights on the MDS Nordion 10K at this weekend's Ottawa Race Weekend. Deriba Merga will be competing for the \$100,000 prize offered to any runner who breaks the 10K world record in Ottawa this Saturday. **METRO OTTAWA**

# Local



## Kayaker rescued on Ottawa

A 23-year-old male suffered severe hypothermia after his kayak capsized in the Ottawa River west of the Nepean Sailing Club yesterday. Paramedics said the man drifted in the strong current for about two hours before a driver saw the man and called 9-1-1. Two men in a canoe assisted in the rescue before Ottawa Fire Services brought the kayaker to shore. Paramedics said the man was wearing a personal flotation device. He is in stable condition in hospital. **METRO OTTAWA**

## Outaouais area seeks sightseers close to home

**TOURISM** With the aim of turning residents into tourists, Tourisme Outaouais launched its 2009 summer campaign in Gatineau yesterday.

In previous years, Outaouais has marketed itself as far as the United States, said director general of Tourisme Outaouais Gilles Picard. "But because of the economic situation, our strategy is a little bit different," he said. "We're promoting the Outaouais region to people in Ottawa, Montreal and Kingston, to invite families and adult couples to visit our destination. Our marketing strategy is that it's close to where you live," he said.

While a recession might seem like an unusual time to start a tourism campaign, it's actually a good opportunity, said Picard.

The Outaouais region gets three million visitors a year.

TRACEY TONG/METRO OTTAWA

## \$272M invested to aid seniors in being healthy, independent

TRACEY TONG  
tracey.tong@metronews.ca

In today's busy world, it's tough to be a senior. But it's nice to know that sometimes, things are taken care of.

When Geraldine Crete returned home from a surgery, the Ottawa senior "didn't have a thing to worry about."

"The nurse was there, the supplies were there," she said.

Speaking to a crowd of politicians and her peers yesterday, Crete said the Champlain Local Health Integration Network's Aging in Place program "took a load off."

The program also helped care for her husband, helped the couple get new glasses and prescriptions and essentially allowed them to live independently in their own home.

Yesterday in Ottawa, the province announced a \$272-million investment into programs to help seniors live healthier, more independent lives.

Of that funding, the government is investing \$187.2 million into the Aging at Home strategy, which includes the Aging in Place program.

Locally, the Champlain LHIN is receiving nearly \$25 million to ensure more seniors can live independently.

"They want to be at home," said Minister of Health and Long-Term Care David Caplan. "That's where the philosophy of Aging at Home comes from."

There's also the bonus of



Minister of Health and Long-Term Care David Caplan, in Ottawa yesterday, announced funding for Ontario programs to help seniors live healthier, more independent lives.

### "It will allow seniors to preserve their dignity and stay at home."

Dr. Robert Cushman

taking a lot of pressure off of hospitals, as well as reducing emergency department wait times, he said.

"This is a very exciting advance in our health-care system," he said.

Programs like Aging at Home do reduce waiting times and free up hospital

beds, agreed Champlain LHIN CEO Dr. Robert Cushman. "but better yet, it takes better care of seniors and allows them to stay at home and be near their friends."

"It will allow seniors to preserve their dignity and stay at home," Cushman said.

"Being on site where clients live allows us to respond quickly and it gives clients peace of mind," said case manager Cathy MacLure. "It also allows clients to live longer, healthier lives."

## Ottawa realty market 'doing well': Analyst

City one of most stable in Ontario

TRACEY TONG  
tracey.tong@metronews.ca

Sunny Side

**While home sales are expected to cool in Ontario this year, Ottawa is one of four cities in the province that will enjoy greater stability, the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corp. said yesterday.**

Ottawa, Hamilton, Thunder Bay and Kitchener have the tightest resale markets in Ontario, the CMHC stated in its 2009 second-quarter housing market outlook released yesterday. In the meantime, home prices in urban markets tied to auto production and U.S. trade, including Windsor, Oshawa and St. Catharines-Niagara, will fare the worst.

"Compared to the rest of Ontario, and even the rest of Canada, Ottawa is doing well," said CMHC senior market analyst Sandra Perez Torres. "Employment is increasing. We've had the public administration sector increase by 4.3 per cent in the last four months, services increased 1.6 per cent and construction increased by 26 per cent. Overall, it's a positive outlook."

The report stated slowing conditions will result in Ontario home prices falling 5.1 per cent this year — putting buyers in the driver's seat — but that there will be a "modest pickup in 2010."

"Stable labour market

conditions ... will help boost housing demand in 2010," said Ted Tsiakopoulos, CMHC's Ontario regional economist.

But for now, this means "a good opportunity for people to jump into the home ownership markets," said Perez Torres. "Buyers will benefit from several factors, including more affordable housing and interest rates which are very low now."

While CMHC's Ottawa Housing Market Outlook stated that residential construction activity will slow in 2009 — down from a four-year peak last year — balanced resale market conditions throughout most of 2009 have also led to a 10.1 per cent decline in MLS sales transactions and a 0.5 per cent reduction in the average MLS price. In Ottawa, the average price is set to reach \$289,000 in 2009, Perez Torres said.

But despite what may sound like bad news, "overall, we have a very stable housing market," she said. "In terms of sales, we're doing very well."

The decrease in average housing prices is not due to the value of homes going down, Perez Torres said.

"It's due to people buying more affordable homes. We have more townhouses and condos being sold."

metronews.ca

What's online today.

**Blogs** It's Called Football welcomes CSL commissioner Cary Kaplan to discuss the league's expansion and Sex-cetera asks the experts why we're so fascinated by the affairs of the rich and famous.



**Lotteries** KENO PICK 3

Ontario Pick 3: 3 8 9; Ontario Pick 4: 7 5 5 2  
Encore: 6221016  
Daily Keno: 1, 3, 6, 15, 26, 34, 35, 39, 44, 48, 49, 50, 51, 54, 55, 56, 61, 64, 66, 67.  
These results are not official.

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**Therapy helps insomniacs more than meds: Study**

Teaching insomniacs how to fall asleep through talk therapy produces better results than continued use of medications, according to a new Canadian study. **REUTERS**

**3**

# Canada

## Olympic toke?

2010 torch reminds many of marijuana joint

### All hail — or inhale — the 2010 Olympic Torch.

Or, as it's jokingly known around Vancouver, the Olympic Toke.

Composed of stainless steel, aluminum and sheet moulding, the torch was designed to invoke snow, ice, skiing and skating, but to many, the metre-length white torch looks suspiciously like a marijuana joint, especially when lit.

The observation has become so common in that city that it's hard to know who was the first to say, "Hey, doesn't that look like..."

But that the torch bears a resemblance to Vancouver's biggest cash crop was

evident right away to Jodie Emery, editor of Cannabis Culture magazine.

"A lot of people come to Vancouver because it's marijuana-friendly, so I think people who already enjoy a joint themselves will feel a little more kinship to the Olympics," said Emery, who ran this month as a Green party candidate in the provincial election.

"I'm sure the organizers didn't intend for it to look like a joint but that's what a lot of people are seeing."

The association between toking and the Olympics didn't begin with the torch, of course.

At the 1998 Games in

Nagano, Japan, Whistler skier Ross Rebagliati won, then lost the gold medal in snowboarding after testing positive for marijuana. The medal was returned after Rebagliati explained he had inhaled second-hand smoke. And Olympic swimming sensation Michael Phelps was photographed in February with a bong.

**TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

To many, the Olympic Torch looks like a marijuana joint, prompting the observation to become common among Vancouverites.

THE PHOTO

### Halifax One hard party



Mario, a tenant at a townhouse in Halifax who didn't want his last name used, talks with Metro yesterday about a weekend party that got out of control. Some 200 or more partygoers started tearing down the drywall. When the hosts tried to shut it down, they claim they were attacked. The damages are estimated at about a few thousand dollars.

### News in brief

**ENERGY** The federal government announced details yesterday of the \$1-billion clean energy fund it promised in February, with the lion's share of the cash going to support the development of carbon capture and storage projects. **REUTERS**

**OLIPHANT** Former prime minister Brian Mulroney admitted yesterday he did not want author William Kaplan to go public with information that he had a business relationship with Karlheinz Schreiber.

**CBC NEWS ONLINE**

### Feds must act on food safety: Poll

**FOOD** Canadians are distrustful of food companies inspecting their own meat and want the federal government to take more responsibility for food safety, a national poll has found.

Seven in 10 Canadians believe Ottawa should be more hands-on in the safeguarding of food products, says the Nanos Research survey commissioned by the agriculture union that represents federal meat inspectors.

The poll asked 1,001

Canadians to gauge their faith in the country's meat inspection system following last summer's listeria outbreak that killed 22 people and sickened hundreds of others. The results are considered accurate within 3.1 per cent plus or minus, 19 times out of 20.

"What the poll shows is what my expectations are," said Liberal agriculture critic Wayne Easter who sits on a committee investigating the outbreak.

**TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

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Scientists yesterday unveiled fossilized remains, left, of one of the oldest skeletons of an early primate, a finding they say could further understanding of how our ancestors may have appeared. The now-extinct primate lived some 47 million years ago and was found south of Frankfurt, Germany. **CBC NEWS ONLINE**

**Ancient primate fossil unveiled**

# World/Business

## Obama sets new efficiency standards

**U.S. President Barack Obama took aim at climate-warming greenhouse gases yesterday and ordered the struggling auto industry to make more fuel-efficient cars under tough new national standards to cut emissions and increase gas mileage.**

Obama said the national standards, announced at a White House ceremony attended by auto industry and union leaders, would reduce U.S. dependence on foreign oil and give five years of cost certainty to an industry battling to survive.

"The status quo is no longer acceptable," Obama said in an announcement that will pressure carmakers to transform the industry to produce more efficient vehicles. Under the new vehicle standards, U.S. passenger vehicles must average 35.5 miles per gallon by 2016. Obama said that would save 1.8 billion barrels of oil over the lifetime



U.S. President Barack Obama puts his arm around California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger after announcing new standards for automobile fuel economy and emissions.

of the program.

The plan was praised by automakers and environmentalists but will mean higher price tags for consumers. The new program will add about \$600 US to the price of producing a vehicle.

The plan resolves a long-running dispute between the government and California, which sought a

waiver from federal law to impose its own tough standards on emissions. Obama said a series of lawsuits tied to California's efforts would be dropped.

California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger attended the announcement and told reporters the weekend negotiations on the plan were "very intense."

REUTERS

## Sri Lanka confirms rebel leader dead

**SRI LANKA** Sri Lanka's military said yesterday Tamil Tiger rebel leader Vellupillai Prabhakaran's body had been found, and president Mahinda Rajapaksa urged Tamils to join in rebuilding a nation split by a 25-year separatist war. Television footage showed what appeared to be the corpse of the man who plunged the nation into one of the world's most intractable wars, his eyes open, face bloated and the top of his head blown off. The military declared victory over the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam after a gun battle on Monday.

REUTERS

## Flu could become resistant

**FLU** Influenza A (H1N1), also known as swine flu, is now widespread, causing a range of illness, and U.S. health officials say they fear it could mix with drug-resistant versions of seasonal flu.

This year its cousin, a seasonal H1N1 strain, became

mostly resistant to the most commonly used antiviral — Tamiflu.

Relenza, an inhaled drug, still works. The CDC said more seasonal flu viruses were making people sick than would normally be expected for May, and the reasons were not clear.

REUTERS

## News in brief

**TEEN SEX** British schoolboy Alfie Patten, who made headlines when it was reported he had got his 15-year-old girlfriend pregnant when aged 12, is not the baby's father, a newspaper reported yesterday. DNA tests have now revealed that the father is another boy who was 14

at the time of conception.

**PLANE CRASH** An Indonesian military plane carrying 13 crew and about 96 passengers has crashed in East Java, an air force spokesman said last night. The number of casualties was unclear.

REUTERS

## The future of web queries?

**It's not a Google-killer — in fact, it's not even a search engine — but WolframAlpha and its concept of "computational knowledge" is already raising eyebrows by suggesting what the future of Internet queries might look like.**

Tech buffs have had a few days to play with WolframAlpha since it went live for testing last weekend amid significant buzz. Now open to the public, the free web service promises to eventually make "all systematic knowledge immediately computable by anyone."

WolframAlpha has a home page that resembles

### Creator

• WolframAlpha's creator, Stephen Wolfram, has been described as a physics prodigy. He wrote his first scientific paper at 15 and received his PhD in theoretical physics from Caltech by age 20.

Google's, complete with a prominent query box. But instead of trolling billions of web pages for pertinent information and then leaving it up to the user to decide what is most useful, WolframAlpha attempts to answer a given query by

mining its vast databases.

The early reviews are mixed, with some marveling at its ability to answer questions of a human nature — How far is it from Vancouver to Halifax? — and others wondering whether it's just as easy to turn to existing web resources.

"WolframAlpha is not a Google-killer and it's not going to replace it," said Carmi Levy, senior vice-president of strategic consulting for AR Communications Inc. "But it certainly points us toward a future where search looks very different than it does today."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

## Quebec Caisse hearing



Henri-Paul Rousseau, former president and CEO of the Caisse de depot et placement du Quebec, pauses during yesterday's parliamentary committee hearing about the \$39.8-billion losses of the Caisse at the National Assembly in Quebec City.

## Business in brief

**ECONOMY** Canada has less need than other countries to boost its economy with unusual steps like printing money to buy assets, a Bank of Canada official said yesterday, hammering home the message that it has done enough to combat the recession.

**AUTO** General Motors Corp. and the Canadian Auto Workers must have a cost-savings deal in place by May 31 to qualify for a government rescue package, Industry Minister Tony Clement said yesterday, days after the two sides failed to meet an earlier target date of May 15.

REUTERS

## Unexpected decline in Q1 business bankruptcies

### SunnySide

**REPORT** Business bankruptcies in Canada dropped unexpectedly in the first quarter, in contrast with the trend in the United States and a sharp rise seen during previous Canadian recessions, a report released yesterday said.

Business bankruptcies fell no less than 14 per cent during the first three months of 2009 compared with the same period in 2008, according to the report by CIBC World Markets.

The total number of business bankruptcies in Canada fell 4.4 per cent during the year ended March 2009.

"The resiliency of business bankruptcies bodes well for the recovery in the labour market in 2010," said the report's author, Benjamin Tal.

REUTERS



**H1N1 Flu Virus:** the best way to stay healthy is to wash your hands thoroughly and often or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

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# Comment & Views

## Comment

### Whack a seal, it's our right

#### Defending our annual stupidity celebration

#### TheWestView

Paul  
Sullivan

metronews.ca/thewestview

As the beer commercial goes: I am Canadian. And as such, I suppose, it's my patriotic duty to defend our annual celebration of stupidity, the Atlantic seal hunt.

OK, here goes.

The first thing you should know is that this so-called annual slaughter targets only a tiny percentage of the 5.5 million harp seal population, just a quarter of a million of the cutest and most defenceless.

Keep in mind as well that sealers can no longer target "babies." Now they have to wait until the seals are "mature": 12-15 days old and beginning to moult. This corresponds with

the time the baby seals are abandoned by their mothers. "Hi kid. Abandoned by your mom? Welcome to the real world. Whack!"

I must, on behalf of the 6,000 sealers who make their livings whacking baby seals, protest the European Union's ban on seal pelts, passed May 5. Obviously, because the Europeans kill animals (and what about those bull fights, eh? Eh?), they have no right to get all self-righteous about the seal hunt. Don't they realize the hunt is strictly regulated and humane?

At least as humane as it can be, considering it apparently requires the use of some-

**"Obviously, because the Europeans kill animals they have no right to get all self-righteous about the seal hunt."**

thing called a "hakapik," which looks exactly as it sounds, and that the "mature" seal has absolutely no means of escape, except to close its big, impossibly adorable eyes, and wonder what happened to mom.

And those European dilettantes should respect the grand tradition that accompanies the whacking of baby seals.

Our Inuit friends have been whacking same since before recorded history and our noble maritime fisher guys have been at it for more than 400 years.

And surely that is one of the great lessons of history: The longer a brutal, pointless practice endures, the less pointless it becomes, but I'm not sure I

want to go there just now.

Let's remember the annual seal whackathon brings 30 million badly needed dollars to the Atlantic economy. When you consider that \$30 million about covers the cost of the commodores at the new \$1-billion Vancouver convention centre, you have some idea of the epic scale we're dealing with here. Of course, we could just give the Newfoundland sealers 30 million bucks and a gift coupon for Tim Hortons and tell them to stay home, but where's the dignity?

Who are we — effete, urban snobs who eat veal probably — to tell the noble sealers to forgo their storied traditions and stop whacking and hakapiking baby, er, mature seals to death?

We simply don't understand, do we?

Paul Sullivan is a Vancouver-based journalist and owner of Sullivan Media Consulting; vancouverletters@metronews.ca.



not sure I

## Word on the street: Where is your favourite spot in the city to people watch and why?

**Janice MacIsaac**  
age 40, Ottawa

A: The ByWard Market — you get a good cross-section of tourists and locals.

**Vladimir Sorio**  
age 24, Ottawa

A: Anywhere on a patio downtown is a good place to scope out the attractive and not-so-attractive people that pass by.

**Cassandra Smid**  
age 20, Ottawa

A: Definitely Confederation Park. I was just there and there's definitely lots of interesting people.

**Sam Kapoor**  
age 27, Ottawa

A: Any local coffee shops are great places to sit and watch different types of people come in and go out.

**Ian McIntyre**  
age 38, Ottawa

A: I guess the place for me to people watch is the fountain in Confederation Park — everyone from all over downtown.

**Natalie Long**  
age 21, Ottawa

A: From a patio in the ByWard Market — you really see an eclectic mix of people passing by from that point of view.



Tell us your views by email to [ottawaleters@metronews.ca](mailto:ottawaleters@metronews.ca) or comment on [metronews.ca](http://metronews.ca) or on Twitter @metroottawa

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## Online Chatter

The sunnyside of life shines on the web

Re: What's your favourite thing about your city?

The people are friendly and interesting. The bars aren't too shabby either. And the water, can't beat it.

Tweet by @BradFraser @metrocalgary

Re: What's your favourite thing about your city?

My favourite thing about Ottawa is how clean and family oriented it is.

Tweet by @Kevinbourne @metroottawa

Re: What's your favourite thing about your city?

Parliament Hill. The sight of it never gets boring.

Tweet by @ReelRoula @metroottawa

Re: What makes you smile?  
Tulips blooming makes me smile.

Tweet by @smileydngerl @metrotoronto



Follow Metro on Twitter for news updates and more: @metroottawa

Re: What's your favourite spot in your city?

The forest trails in High Park and the distillery.

Tweet by @giddyupsales @metrotoronto

Kudos to @metrotoronto, Metronews.ca, for focussing on the bright side of life in Canada in today's news vs the gloom you see in most papers.

Tweet by @loftellers @metrotoronto

Re: What's your favourite thing about your city?

The people and our spirit!

Tweet by @DebraWard @metroedmonton

What's your favourite thing about your city? Let us know! #sunnyside (fave thing about your city)

## Quote of the Day

**"We are not dealing with our grand-grand-grand-grandmother, but perhaps our grand-grand-grand-aunt."**

— Jen Franzen of the Senckenberg research Institute in Frankfurt at New York's American Museum of Natural History yesterday. She was commenting on the unveiling of well-preserved fossilized remains of a primate from 47 million years ago that may have been a close relative of monkeys, apes and humans.

REUTERS





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Pittsburgh Steelers linebacker James Harrison will skip the Super Bowl champions' White House visit with U.S. President Barack Obama tomorrow. Harrison will bypass the traditional ceremony, just as he did when the Steelers were honoured by President George W. Bush at the White House in June 2006. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

# Sports



## Julien honoured

Boston Bruins head coach Claude Julien has been named NHL Coach of the Year by the Sporting News. Julien led Boston to the top of the Eastern Conference standings this season, posting a record of 53-19-10 while racking up 116 points in just his second season in Beantown. The Sporting News chose Julien after compiling votes by 39 coaches and executives from throughout the league. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

SPORTS@METRONews.CA

## Red Wings win in OT

Stanley Cup  
2009 **Playoffs**  
(Detroit leads series 2-0)  
Chicago 2 Detroit 3 (OT)



Mikael Samuelsson's goal 5:14 into overtime sent the Detroit Red Wings to a 3-2 victory over the Chicago Blackhawks in Game 2 of their Western Conference final in Detroit last night.

Dan Cleary and Brian Rafalski also tallied for the Red Wings, who assumed a two-games-to-none series advantage.

Chris Osgood made 37 saves for his 10th win of this postseason.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Ben Eager of the Chicago Blackhawks checks Niklas Kronwall of the Detroit Red Wings into the boards during last night's game at Joe Louis Arena in Detroit. Detroit won 3-2 in overtime.

## Red Sox edge Blue Jays

### MLB RESULTS

Toronto 1 Boston 2



Tim Wakefield threw eight solid innings and the Boston Red Sox edged Toronto 2-1 in the opener of a three-game series.

Wakefield (5-2) allowed

five hits, including a fifth-inning homer to Kevin Millar, walked two and fanned three batters.

The knuckleballer is 17-11 all-time against Toronto.

Brian Tallet (2-2) gave up four hits and two runs over six innings as the AL East-leading Blue Jays had a season-high four-game win streak stopped.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

### Sports in brief

**NBA** The Los Angeles Clippers won the NBA Draft lottery last night and will have the No. 1 overall selection on June 25. Memphis will pick second, followed by Oklahoma City and Sacramento. The Toronto Raptors will pick ninth.

**NHL** The National Hockey League and the owner of the bankrupt Phoenix Coyotes must seek mediation to settle

their differences on who controls the hockey team, a federal bankruptcy judge ruled yesterday.

**NFL** National Football League owners voted yesterday to host the 2013 Super Bowl in New Orleans, the first time the city will stage the league's championship game since 2002.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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**Info stolen from Centennial**

A package containing student loan applications, names, addresses, and SIN digits of nearly 6,400 students was stolen off a cart at Centennial College in Toronto last Tuesday. A Centennial spokeswoman says student loans were not affected by the theft. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

9

# Workology

EDITOR: DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

## Screw You Recession

Sick of all this recession talk? Visit Virgin Mobile's recession busting website, [screwyourecession.ca](http://screwyourecession.ca). The website offers advice and tips and tricks for combating the economic downturn, from cheap first dates to tips on building the perfect resumé to ways of enjoying arts and culture on the cheap.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

# Stage a smart move in bad times

Theatre jobs strong in the capital market says one grad

**MJ DESCHAMPS**  
for Metro Canada



**While the economic recession and its layoffs have everyone a little anxious right now, Natalie Joy Quesnel doesn't seem rattled at all.**

And she's not acting. Joy, 29, holds a bachelor's degree in theatre and an MA in directing from the University of Ottawa. She said that fine arts degrees often get a bad reputation for not providing sustainable, career choices once school is over, but with the economy how it is today, she said it is actually the best time to be getting into the arts.

"When you look throughout history at war and destruction and terror, you see that some of the most interesting, provocative and fantastic theatre has come out of those times," said Joy.

"When people are at their lowest point is when they need to be entertained and stimulated and spoken to the most."

Although her parents were involved in the theatre community while Joy was growing up, they weren't pleased, she said, to find out she had changed her English degree to a theatre degree after her first semester of university.

"They were angry because they really felt my goal to become a teacher

was solid and would give me a secure future, but this career has given me a secure income too — I'm able to put food on the table and raise my kids the way I want to and still love what I do," said Joy.

But "if you're worth your salt," as Joy puts it, "you will get the work."

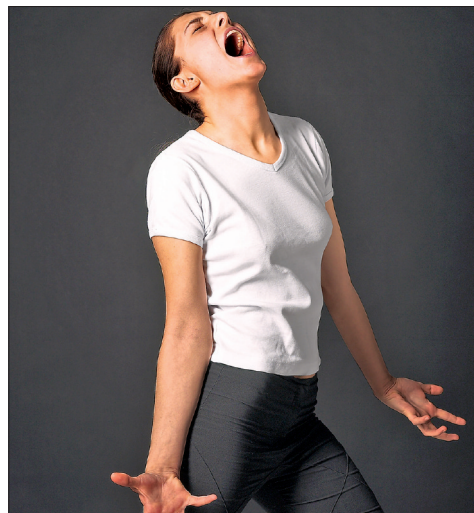
And Joy certainly seems to be worth her salt. She currently works in the field in a number of aspects; acting, directing, teaching and stage managing, and has her own production company, Enigma Productions. She is also the general manager of this year's Ottawa Fringe Festival, taking place in June 18 through 28.

Joy said that the practical

aspect of the University of Ottawa's theatre department is what most appealed to her, and highly recommends to those who want to become immediately emerged in productions as well as gaining a good solid background of the whole craft.

She warns future graduates too, that while big cities like Toronto, Montreal or Vancouver may seem more appealing to those starting out in the field than Ottawa, the ratio of people to work available isn't very promising.

"Right now, the community in Ottawa is such a size that you have a pretty good chance of getting decent work," said Joy.



A career in theatre is obtainable, "if you're worth your salt, you will get work," says one graduate from the University of Ottawa.

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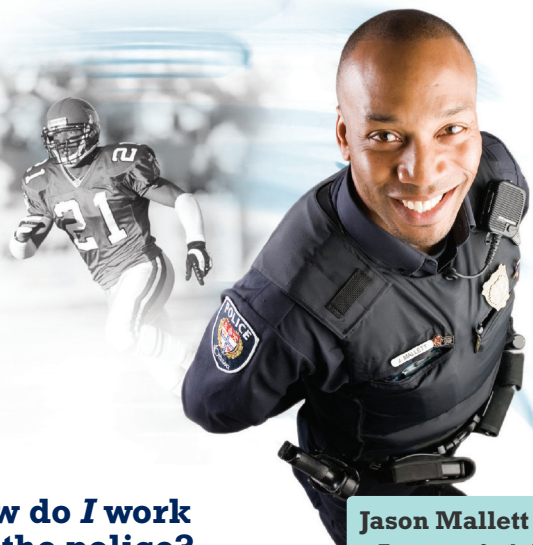
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Volvo will release a free racing game developed with Swedish video game specialists SimBin. Users can virtually pilot the Volvo S60 concept or five Volvo racing legends in the game. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

# Metro Drive



## Costliest bid

A 1957 Ferrari 250 Testa Rossa has set a new world record for the most expensive car ever sold at auction, costing the buyer \$12.15 million US, according to RM Auctions, which organized the event Sunday in Maranello, Italy. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

EDITOR: KUMAR SAHA, KUMAR.SAHA@METRONWS.CA

## TSX opens door to luxury

### Acura model keeps sporty feel despite many refinements

ROB BEINTEMA  
for Metro Canada



**Who says it can't be fixed if it ain't broke?**

When the new 2009 Acura TSX debuted, it delivered on the promise of a bigger and better TSX.

And those two qualities don't always go together.

In fact, when the original TSX was unveiled in 2003, I remember Acura making much of the fact that the car was based on the European Accord platform, not Honda's domestic version.

The European version of the Accord was smaller, lighter and tighter, with a platform tuned for the sporty character, taut suspension and handling engendered by the narrower, twisty roads of the Old World.

So designers had to be careful not to mess with the TSX's persona and



The new 2009 Acura TSX, entry level to the premium market, is an upscale sports sedan with new refinements inside and out.

strategic positioning within the lineup, while still trying to make the second-generation car roomier, more agile and more responsive.

The 2009 TSX evolution starts with a wider, more aggressive stance. Overall body-width has increased 78 mm and the track di-

mensions are 65 mm wider than the outgoing model. The TSX has also been stretched in the other direction, riding on a 35 mm longer wheelbase and the car itself is 66 mm longer. That translates into a larger platform with smoother, more planted handling feel along with a

corresponding increase in exterior dimensions and interior space.

Acura has tweaked the performance and emissions of the 2.4-litre all-aluminum DOHC i-VTEC inline 4-cylinder engine that produces 201 hp and 172 lb-ft of torque. That doesn't sound like much of an improvement at first — the horsepower is actually down from the 205 hp rating of the 2008 model. Torque is up 8.0 lb-ft (170 lb-ft in the automatic), but more importantly, the useable power is available across a much wider rpm range, while the five per-

cent increase in torque is designed to strengthen the engine's pulling power at middle rpm levels.

Fuel economy is rated at 9.6/6.5/8.2L/100 km (city/hwy/comb), in the automatic, as tested.

Two transmissions are available, a standard six-speed close-ratio manual with new (more performance oriented) ratios for second through sixth gears or a Sequential SportShift five-speed automatic with a new lock-up assembly.

The manual tranny was designed with the sport driver in mind, featuring a

## 2009 Acura TSX

**Type:** Entry-level luxury sedan  
**Price:** from \$37,650  
**Engine:** 2.4-litre DOHC i-VTEC 4-cylinder engine (201 hp / 172 lb-ft)  
**Fuel economy:** 9.6/6.5/8.2L/100km (city/hwy/combined)

## Highlights

- High-quality looks
- Loaded with features



Elegant interior styling.

short-throw shifter and mounted in a lightweight magnesium case — a rarity in the industry.

Any Acura comes well loaded but bumping the TSX up to Premium adds leather seats, XM Satellite Radio, USB connector, front fog lights, automatic headlight activation, High Intensity Discharge low-beam headlights and a two-position driver memory seat. And all this button-happy gadgetry is set into a high-quality interior.

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**Toyota most trusted in study**

Toyota has been voted Canada's most trusted brand in two categories — passenger car manufacturer and SUV manufacturer — in a national study commissioned by Reader's Digest. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

# Nuvis: Urban utility redefined

**The world can now peer into Hyundai's future with the introduction of the Nuvis concept at the recently concluded 2009 New York International Auto Show.**

The Nuvis is the eleventh signature concept car to be designed at the company's California Design Center in Irvine, Calif.

In addition to showcasing the brand's cutting-edge capabilities, Nuvis also hints at a possible design direction for a future-generation crossover, blending attributes of a tall urban car and a premium utility vehicle.

Consistent with Hyundai's pledge to lead all brands in U.S. fuel economy by 2015, Nuvis is powered by Hyundai's Hybrid Blue Drive architecture, which uses breakthrough lithium polymer battery technology.

Hyundai's all-new, homegrown Hybrid Blue Drive architecture helps define the Nuvis concept. Hyundai's proprietary parallel hybrid drive system mates the already fuel-effi-

ther opened or closed, create unique front, rear and profile views.

Blue ambient lighting

cast across the body adds to the overall upscale feel of the vehicle.

FROM CARGUIDE



Hyundai's Nuvis concept.

**"Consistent with Hyundai's pledge to lead all brands in U.S. fuel economy by 2015, Nuvis is powered by Hyundai's Hybrid Blue Drive architecture, which uses breakthrough lithium polymer battery technology."**

cient 2.4-litre Theta II engine to a six-speed automatic transmission and a 30kW electric motor for maximum fuel economy.

Hybrid Blue Drive has an all-electric mode and a parallel drive mode, meaning that the wheels are turned by power coming directly from the gasoline engine, or the electric motor, or both together, as conditions demand.

This parallel hybrid drive architecture will serve as the foundation for future Hyundai hybrid drive vehicles, starting with the next-generation Sonata.

Perched on top of 22-inch wheels, Nuvis' proportions are tall, strong and protective. The two body-side lines set up a flowing water effect, giving the appearance of motion.

Large gull-wing doors, ei-



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Vehicle shown with optional equipment. \*Based on unadjusted city fuel economy from EPA (10/08) and VCA (5/08). EPA-estimated 49 city/44 hwy mpg (5.8 city/6.4 hwy L/100km) 2009 Escape Hybrid with eCVT, front wheel drive. †Class is Small SUV. EPA-estimated 31 city/39 hwy mpg (9.2 city/7.2 hwy L/100km), I4 manual FWD. Canadian ratings based on Transport Canada approved test methods. Actual fuel consumption may vary based on road conditions, vehicle loading and driving habits.

ford.ca





Hyundai ranks highest among auto manufacturer websites in satisfying Canadian new-vehicle shoppers, according to a recent J.D. Power and Associates study. Toyota closely follows Hyundai in the rankings and Mazda is third. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

# Borrego satisfies

## Kia SUV competent but doesn't outshine rivals

JIL MCINTOSH  
for Metro Canada



Given the length of time it takes to develop a vehicle, automakers can find circumstances have changed considerably from the drawing board to the showroom. That's probably the case with the Kia Borrego, which isn't helped by being released into the current economic crisis.

It's not that there's a lot wrong with it, but that it doesn't really outshine the competitors in a rapidly-dwindling segment. It's another competent SUV in a pool of competent mid-

full-size SUVs.

This body-on-frame, seven-passenger model offers Kia's first V8 in North America, a 4.6-litre that's a version of the Hyundai Genesis' power plant. But my tester was the 3.8-litre V6, which starts at \$36,995, making it \$2,500 less than the V8.

My ride was the upper-line EX, at \$40,995, which brings extra features and a specific 4WD system. The base LX is a part-time system, running primarily in rear-wheel, with the 4x4 system strictly for loose or slippery surfaces. The EX uses a full-time, all-wheel system that can be used on any road, and also locked



The 2009 Kia Borrego aims to take its place in the tough SUV segment and one thing that may be going for it is the improved interior, which features quality materials and comfortable seating.

into high or low if necessary for extra traction.

The platform is unique, not just a larger version of the Sorento, with independent rear suspension. In V6 configuration, it puts out 276 horsepower and 267 lb/ft of torque, and comes solely with a five-speed automatic transmission (the V8 uses a six-speed automatic).

The V6 will tow up to 5,000 lbs, the V8 up to 7,500. Published fuel figures for the V6 are 13.0 L/100 km in the city and 9.4 on the highway; in combined driving, I averaged 15.2 L/100 km (19 mpg).

The base LX contains the usual round-up of amenities: A/C, heated seats and mirrors, trailer hitch,

satellite radio, cruise control, side and curtain airbags (but not the V8's driver knee airbag), electronic stability control, hill assist and downhill brake control. Moving up to the EX adds 18-inch wheels, power-adjustable leather seats, automatic climate control, auto-dimming rear mirror, power-adjustable steering wheel,

### 2009 Kia Borrego

**Type:** SUV  
**Price:** from \$36,995  
**Engine:** 3.8L V6  
**HP:** 276  
**Torque:** 267 lb/ft

#### Highlights

- Unique platform
- Roomy

and side steps. The front seats are roomy, and the third-row seats have more legroom than expected, but with hard, flat cushions.

The V6 works so well that I'd question moving up to the V8 unless you're planning heavy-duty towing.

Handling is fine, but the suspension is very truck-like. On smooth roads, Borrego just feels rugged, but the least bit of broken pavement sends every smack and wallop into the cabin.

Inside, there's little to fault for the price: Quality materials, good panel fit, comfortable seating and good visibility. Kia has been improving its interiors over the last few new models, and it shows.

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## Fighting crime, going green

**HYBRIDS** Forty Nissan Altima hybrids are the first alternative fuel vehicles to be used as marked and unmarked patrol cars in the New York Police Department's fleet.

The Altima hybrids have been assigned to areas of the city where their fuel efficiency presents the greatest economic and environmental benefit — both in precincts with a large coverage area and smaller precincts prone to heavy

stop-and-go traffic.

The 40 hybrid vehicles, 18 marked and 22 unmarked, will be used in patrol precincts and other units in all five boroughs.

"These new patrol cars will help fulfill the goal of reducing City government's carbon footprint," said Mayor Michael Bloomberg. "Through savings in fuel, these Altimas can quickly cover their additional cost, from then they will save



New York Police Department has added 40 hybrid patrol cars.

taxpayers money."

While the Altima hybrids are the first alternate fuel vehicles to be used as regular police cars, the NYPD al-

ready uses hybrid vehicles in its parking enforcement fleet as well as electric scooters.

FROM CARGUIDE

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**Bill clears a hurdle**

The "Right to Repair" bill, which will require automakers to make information, software and tools available to independent repair shops, is inching closer to legislation. Bill C-273, introduced by New Democrat Brian Masse, passed the second reading vote in the House of Commons last week. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

# Scion's iQ aims high with trendsetters

**Scion unveiled a special concept version of the iQ micro-subcompact car designed to meet the transportation needs of young urban trendsetters.**

It was shown at the recent New York Auto Show.

Scion's iQ concept is a new urban vehicle with a revolutionary package that is just over 10 feet in length and accommodates three plus luggage.

As more and more urban centers are revitalized with a new sense of purpose, energy, and creativity, young people are moving in from the suburbs to embrace new urbanism and are looking for a car that suits their needs and delivers high emotional value.

The production iQ is currently sold in Japan and Europe. Five Axis of Huntington Beach, Calif. took the iQ to the next level with aggressive exterior and interior modifications that show the vehicle's potential for personalization.

With its 78.7-inch wheelbase, the three-door hatchback can deftly maneuver

ton, the touch-screen articulates to reveal the entertainment hub. The touch screen can also play movies while the vehicle is parked. When not in use,

the screen lays flat on the dash with a translucent cover that emits a colourful display of light patterns to make the interior even more unique. **FROM CARGUIDE**



The centre of attention. With a futuristic shape designed for urban trendsetters, the iQ micro-subcompact, Scion's latest concept, debuted at the recent New York International Auto Show.

**"When not in use, the screen emits a colourful display of light patterns to make the interior even more unique."**

through city traffic. At the same time, its overall length of 126.9-inches, overall width of 71.4-inches, and short front and rear overhangs allow the iQ to fit in virtually any city parking space.

The front-mounted differential and repositioned steering rack decrease front-end length. In addition, the iQ is equipped with a flat gas tank housed beneath the floor that reduces rear overhang.

Pushing the wheels of the small, bold concept towards the four corners of the body gives the iQ a confident stance. The custom 18-inch wheels with a nickel finish and wide tires fill the wheel well, adding to its surefootedness.

The iQ's custom front air dam, aero headlamps and high-intensity LED driving lamps signal urban road readiness.

The iQ features a 10-inch panel LCD screen on top of the center cluster that serves as the main entertainment console and navigation system interface.

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Mini has created a modern version of late Beatles guitarist George Harrison's vintage car to coincide with the band's 50th birthday. The one-off model will be handed over to Harrison's widow, Olivia Harrison. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

**MINI tribute to Harrison**

# Audi pumps it up

PETER BLEAKNEY  
for Metro Canada



In its bid to become the world's largest maker of premium automobiles, Audi recently showed off the latest arrow in its burgeoning quiver in the south of France.

Arriving in Canada in late summer, the four-seat 2010 Audi A5 and hotter S5 Cabriolet, both with quattro all-wheel-drive, will fill the void created by the departing previous generation A4 drop top. No Canadian pricing has been set, but rest assured, Audi wants to lure buyers away from the BMW 328i Cabriolet (\$55,600) and the 335i Cabriolet (\$65,600).

Audi is using a three-layer fabric top for this cabrio, giving the benefits of reduced complexity, weight and volume. Top up, it's a relief to see this car carries much of the A5 coupe's chiseled good looks.

With the roof tucked under the tonneau cover (15 seconds down, 17 seconds



The four-seat 2010 Audi A5 and the hotter S5 Cabriolet (pictured) are arriving in Canada late summer.

up, operates up to 50 km/h) it cuts quite a graceful profile. The brushed aluminum trim ringing the cabin is a lovely detail.

The folded top takes up only 60 litres of the generous 380 litre trunk, and the rear seat splits and folds, offering up to 750 litres of storage volume.

Carrying on Audi's tradition of class-leading interiors, the cabin is beautifully done, highlighted with wood inlays and/or brushed aluminum trim. You sit low in this cab, and the multi-adjustable driver's chair and manual tilt/telescope

## 2010 A5/S5 Cabriolet

**Type:** Sports sedan  
**Price:** Not Available  
**Engine:** 3.2L FSI V6/ 3.0L TFSI Supercharged V6  
**HP:** 265/333  
**Torque:** 243 lb-ft/324.5 lb-ft

### Highlights

- Chiseled good looks
- Most likely to be cheaper than similar BMW models, although no price has been announced so far

wheel make finding the optimal driving position a

breeze.

The 2010 A5 Cabriolet carries a naturally aspirated 265 hp 3.2-litre FSI V6 mated to a 6-speed Tiptronic autobox. This proved a satisfying combination, delivering smooth performance that was well suited to the A5's mission as a comfy tourer.

Enthusiasts will opt for the S5 Cabriolet, which sports 18-inch wheel (up from 17) and a 333 hp supercharged TFSI 3.0-litre V6.

For much of this test route, which resembled the trajectory of a highly intoxicated sailor, horsepower was not a pressing issue. More pertinent was the ability of Audi's latest cabrio to provide good grip and balanced handling.

The quattro full-time all-wheel-drive with a default 60 per cent rear bias is a good start. Standard in the S5 Cabriolet is Audi drive select. A trio of buttons (comfort, auto and dynamic) call up pre-programmed groupings of throttle response, shift maps and servotronic steering assist. Naturally, "dynamic" is the most aggressive.

# Everyone's a bad driver ... except you

AutoPilot

Michael  
Goetz

metronews.ca/autopilot

Have you noticed? Anybody going slower than you is an idiot, and anyone going faster than you is a moron."

George Carlin said that once, and I believe the observation has more than a grain of truth about it.

Our assessment on whether or not some other driver is screwing up seems based not so much on if they're contravening the law — those are obvious signs — but more so if they are deviating from our more idiosyncratic, personal codes of driving behaviour.

That person following you, maybe three feet closer than you're comfortable with? Well, he's a maniac. That person backing up traffic while waiting to make a left, and not taking advantage of a dicey gap in on-coming traffic — a gap you would have surely grabbed? That person is a menace to society. That driver who approached an intersection with far too much caution, causing you to lose your God-given right to run that yellow light? Well, that person is a selfish oaf. How do they live with themselves?

Tolerance of other people's driving is tested even more if that other person is your spouse or significant other.

Here's comedian Rita Rudner on the topic: "When my husband and I are in the car, I usually let him drive. Because when I drive, he has a tendency to bite the dashboard."

One strategy I'm trying, to stay cool behind the wheel, is imagining that whatever boneheaded move the other driver just did, was an aberration, a slip up they usually don't make. But I'm not there yet. I generally assume they're hardened, amoral criminal types, and it's my duty to lay on as much horn as possible.

Another strategy I'm working on is shortening my list of driving pet peeves. Not there yet either.

The thing that has helped me the most, however, in the battle to stay calm, is anticipating debatable behaviour.

Advanced driving courses always instill the notion of self-defence. Quickly identify situations where an ill-advised move by the other driver will put you at risk, and assume the worst.

If they make the right move, that's fine.

But if they cross your line, or the one that police actually use, and you've reacted correctly and gracefully and with a world-weary smirk, well, that's even finer.

Michael Goetz has been writing about cars and editing automotive publications for more than 20 years. He lives in Toronto with his family and a neglected 1967 Jaguar E-type.

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**It's bumpy in California**

California's major urban roadways are the roughest in the U.S., according to a report released by Transportation California. The road conditions cost an average driver in the state at least \$590 US a year in extra vehicle operating costs. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

# How cool is your car?

**JUSTIN PRITCHARD**  
for Metro Canada



**The hot weather is one of the most eagerly anticipated parts of the summer season if you're a human being. If you're a vehicle, the heat means additional strain on vital components during towing, hauling and long family trips.**

Poorly maintained parts tend to show themselves when vehicles are pushed to extremes.

As such, a sweltering summer day is a fantastic time for overheating, driveline failure or engine damage, if your cooling system isn't performing properly. Any of the above will leave you stranded on the roadside with a car full of sweaty, irritated and cranky family members. Fortunately, readying your cooling system for warm-weather travelling is a relatively quick and painless endeavour.

In addition to keeping your engine running at its ideal operating temperature, your cooling system may play a part in keeping other components, like your transmission, from overheating as well. Your cooling system works by circulating coolant throughout the engine to absorb and remove the tremendous heat it generates while running.

Over time, the effectiveness of the coolant diminishes, and a coolant change is required. This occurs in varying intervals for different vehicles, or on an "as-needed" basis as advised by your mechanic. Forget when your coolant was changed last? It's probably overdue.

If your ride is dripping green fluid and you're planning a road trip anyways, you're asking for trouble. Overheating can quickly lead to engine failure and permanent, catastrophic damage. Cooling system repairs tend to be considerably more affordable than an engine replacement.

A periodic radiator flush is also advisable to remove harmful sludge from within the cooling system. Sludge may accumulate within the radiator and hoses over time, reducing effectiveness and component life.

Protecting your engine from the heat this summer is only half the battle — and you'll want to make sure you and your passengers benefit from a reliable and effective air conditioning system. If your A/C

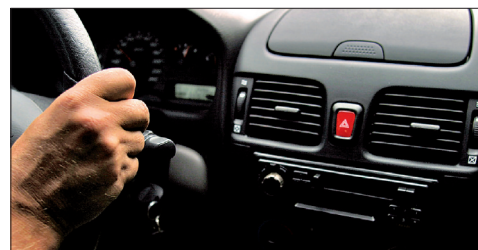
seems hesitant to blow cold, or if it isn't cooling the cabin as quickly as you remember, an inspection is in order. This can often reveal a small problem before it escalates into a much larger and pricier one.

For instance, a leaking

A/C line or fitting may allow air, moisture or other contaminants into the system. This can cause a world of trouble and result in serious damage. Air and moisture mixing with refrigerant is bad news — so fixing a leak early on can

save money, not to mention preventing potentially harmful chemicals from winding up in the atmosphere.

A simple mechanical or electrical failure could result in improper operation of the A/C system, too.



If your car A/C seems hesitant to blow cold, or if it isn't cooling the cabin as quickly as you remember, an inspection may be in order.



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**ford.ca**





Though U.S. motorhome manufacturers have seen demand evaporate as a result of the current economic downturn and credit crunch, analysts are upbeat about the sector, arguing that the market for motorhomes will come back. **REUTERS**

**RVs roll on**

# Travel



## Booming business

A new survey by Destination Weddings & Honeymoons magazine forecasts that— despite the recession — the market for such weddings will grow to \$16 billion US this year from \$13 billion in 2008, extending a winning streak that has seen the market boom from just \$3 billion in 2001. **REUTERS**

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# The wide world of garden tours

## If you're into horticulture, here's your travel to-do list

EMMA E. FORREST  
Metro World News



**Green is chic — why not spend your holiday paying homage to the great outdoors with a garden-themed trip?**

### British Flower Shows

The British are obsessed with their gardens. The highpoints of the British garden lover's year are the RHS flower shows. The most famous of these is the prestigious Chelsea Flower Show at the end of May, where top garden designers compete for the finest show garden and the latest gardening trends are set.

However the insider's choice is the Hampton Court Palace Flower show in July — it's bigger and less crowded-



Above left, a display at the Waterlily House at London's Kew Gardens. Above right, a Zen garden at Japan's Ryoanji Temple.



JAPANESE NATIONAL TOURIST ORGANIZATION

ed. There's an inspiring range

of displays from small gardens to front yards, family-

friendly planting, extravagant conceptual designs, vegetable patches and how to make your garden sustainable,

(rhs.org.uk)

If

trekking round the shows hasn't satiated your needs for horticultural inspiration, then pay a visit to the famous 250-year-old botanical gardens at Kew, in London. These stunning grounds are home to a palace, themed gardens, a tree top walkway, and

impressive plant collections housed in extravagant greenhouses; visit [kew.org](http://kew.org).

### Bulbs in Benelux

Holland is lifted by a riot of colour when spring arrives and the country's trademark flower — the tulip — starts to bloom.

Read more on **page 17** »

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**Bowing out of the Bahamas**

A five-star, Four Seasons resort in the Bahamas will close its doors this month after it was put into receivership nearly two years ago due to mounting financial losses. The Four Seasons Resort Great Exuma is to close May 26 and is no longer accepting reservations. **REUTERS**



Above left, a view of the garden at Saiho-ji Temple in Kyoto, Japan. Above right, the Palm House at Kew Gardens is a massive Victorian glass structure containing a world-class collection.

>> Continued from page 16

The best place to enjoy these bold flowers is at Keukenhof, the world's largest flower garden where they are laid out in vast multicoloured carpets.

Established 60 years ago as an exhibition at which growers from the flower bulb industry could present their latest flowers, it's now a sort of fabulous floral theme park.

Every year seven million flower bulbs in 1,600 different varieties supplied by 93 different exhibitors are planted throughout this 32 hectare estate. You can admire the configurations of different colours and shapes of bulb, and of course buy some to take home afterwards. keukenhof.nl.

#### Zen gardens of Japan

You might

have missed the spring cherry blossoms in Tokyo, but there are plenty more opportunities to enjoy the flora of Japan. Far from the fussy, flowery gardens of Europe and the U.S., these gardens found in the grounds of Buddhist temples, historic castles and private homes, are carefully-constructed minimalist havens, with gravel paths, sparse planting, artfully-placed rocks, pavilions, bridges, tranquil ponds and relaxing water features. Some gardens are religious, others ceremonial, artistic or designed for strolling through.

Kyoto is awash with splendid examples, including those in the grounds of the city's 13 World Heritage Sites, including the gardens at Nijo Castle Ninomaru, Ten-

ryu-ji Temple, Kiyomizu-de-ra Temple, the beautiful moss garden of Saiho-ji Temple, and the rock garden at Kinkaku-ji Temple, where nature is represented by stones and gravel swept into simple patterns with a broom; jnto.go.jp.

#### Biodiversity in Costa Rica

Flora and fauna fans will be overwhelmed by the diversity that Costa Rica has to offer.

This tiny country in Central America covers only 0.1 per cent of the world's landmass, but is home to five per cent of global biodiversity.

Almost a quarter of the country is made up of national parks, protected by the environmentally-conscious government.

These tropical paradises are home to a bounty of more than 100,000 exotic and colourful plant species, alongside thousands of types of animals and birds.

Highlights include the botanical gardens of the Centro Neotropico Sarrapiquí Gardens, the Arenal Botanical Gardens, the Elsie Kientzler Botanical Garden, the botanical gardens of CATIE, the aerial tour of the Braulio Carrillo National Park, the La Paz Waterfall Gardens which is full of butterflies and hummingbirds and the Lankester Botanical Gardens in San Jose, home to more than a thousand varieties of orchid; check

out visitcostarica.com.

#### Tropical gardens in Madeira

There's more to this Portuguese island in the middle of the Atlantic than the sweet wine. Madeira is known for its exotic flora and a visit will not disappoint garden fans — the tropical climate and the volcanic soil create perfect conditions for growing all manner of exotic plants from gardenias and freesias to hibiscus, agapanthus, mimosa, bougainvillea and orchids. All

of these flowers are on show in the wealth of well-tended gardens including the Botanical Gardens, the Tropical Gardens of Monte Palace with its collection of cycads, the Garden of Quinta da Boa Vista, with its collection of orchids, as well as private gardens like Quinta Palmeira and Quinta do Palheiro, famous for its camellias.

Another great way to discover the spectacular scenery is to take a walk along the levadas, a series of water channels created to bring water from the highlands to the lower parts of the island; madeiraturism.org.

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Air Canada and fellow Star Alliance partner Spanair announced yesterday they have entered a codeshare agreement that expands their networks between popular destinations in Canada and Spain. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**



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# Yoga retreats: Getting away from it all

**When the going gets tough, the tough get centred, preferably in paradise.**

Retailers may be shutting their doors, banks may be taking stress tests, but yoga retreats are surprisingly popular now even, or especially, among the unemployed, the soon-to-be unemployed, and the fearing-to-be unemployed.

"Several people I've spoken to in the last few weeks have said, 'You know, I just lost my job and I really shouldn't be doing this, but I need this retreat so-o-o badly,'" Wesleigh Roeca, who runs the retreat program at YogaWorks, said in an interview.

"We were in Ojai, California, in March, and we're going to Hawaii in June," said Roeca of the approximately week-long getaways conducted by the California-based national chain. She also had a sold-out retreat planned for Mexico this week, but was forced to cancel it due to H1N1, or swine flu.

"Just about all of our retreats sell out," she ex-



People take part in a yoga class on a capsule of the Singapore Flyer observation wheel in Singapore on April 18. The Yoga In the Sky session was held as part of Yogamania 2009.

plained. "It's a healing vacation. And in times of economic uncertainty, healing vacations offer people rejuvenation." Another plus, according to Roeca, is that the retreats are typically all-inclusive — one price that includes accommodations, meals, days filled with yoga, and even some excursions. "A lot of bang for your buck!" she said.

At Kripalu Center for Yoga and Health, located in the Berkshires town of

Stockbridge, Mass., spokesperson Cathy Husid-Shamir agrees that uncertain times have shifted vacation priorities.

"People these days seem uncomfortable, even guilty, about just sitting on a beach," she said. "At our retreat centre we teach the art and science of yoga to help people find health and balance. It's a learning vacation in an environment that supports it."

Kripalu (the name

means "grace") also offers courses on topics like stress management, health challenges, insomnia, and weight loss, as well as saunas, hiking trails, horseback riding and other activities.

As a nod to the times, Kripalu teachers have organized a tuition-free program for people who recently lost their jobs, even as the retreat prepares to open an 80-room expansion annex in June. "People want to go somewhere where we can truly get away from it all," explained Husid-Shamir.

Nevertheless, Kripalu's policy of no alcohol on the menus, no television in the rooms, and a cuisine "heavy on plant base, with limited seafood and chicken," might deter the more epicurean yogi.

For Billy Asad, a self-described "adventurer-retreat guy," who has been organizing corporate and studio yoga getaways for 10 years, enjoyment trumps asceticism every time. "Go have a glass of wine! Go have a steak! It's okay!" he said from Los Angeles. **REUTERS**

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### Niagara Falls Weekend

**\$459**  
The Oakes Hotel Overlooking the Falls + taxes & fees \$114  
**INCLUDES** roundtrip airfare, car rental and 3 nights 3-star accom overlooking the magnificent Niagara Falls Escarpment. Departs Jun 12/ggv/w.

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**FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK**

Weddings always seem to bring out the unexpected in Christine (Julia Louis-Dreyfus), and the nuptials of her ex, Richard (Clark Gregg), are no exception, as she rekindles her romance with New Christine's (Emily Rutherford) father (guest star Scott Bakula). Afterward, though, she learns some shocking news about "Papa Jeff." Constance Zimmer and James Lesure also guest star in the season finale, "Love: A Cautionary Tale." 8 PM on 13 CBS



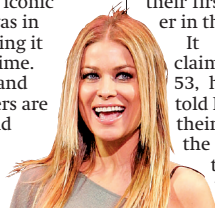
## Celebrity Buzz

## Carmen joins burlesque show

**CAREER MOVE?** Carmen Electra is getting ready to strip down — but not completely — in topless cabaret Crazy Horse in Las Vegas, starting in July.

"She's not going topless, but she will be wearing very little," a rep for the show said. Electra added: "It is such an iconic show and I was in awe after seeing it for the first time. The dancers and the performers are so sensual and sexy."

**METRO  
WORLD NEWS**



## Mel's girlfriend pregnant?

**BABY MAMA DRAMA** Mel Gibson's new girlfriend is reportedly pregnant, according to [femalefirst.co.uk](http://femalefirst.co.uk).

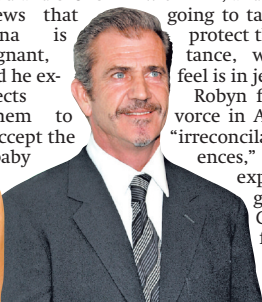
The Lethal Weapon star — who already has seven children with estranged wife Robyn — and Russian singer Oksana Grigorieva are said to be expecting their first child together in the autumn.

It has been claimed Gibson, 53, has already told Robyn and their children the news, although it wasn't

well-received.

A source told the National Enquirer magazine: "In late April, Mel gathered his children at the family home in Malibu and broke the news that

Oksana is pregnant, and he expects them to accept the baby



as a new sibling.

"They are quite upset. Even though Mel assured them the pregnancy was unplanned, they're furious with him, and say they're going to take steps to protect their inheritance, which they feel is in jeopardy."

Robyn filed for divorce in April, citing "irreconcilable differences," and she is expected to get half of Gibson's fortune.

**METRO NEWS  
SERVICES**

## Hilary reimagines Bonnie

**REINTERPRETATION** Hilary Duff thinks her upcoming film *The Story of Bonnie and Clyde* will be "beautiful," [femalefirst.co.uk](http://femalefirst.co.uk) reports.

The 21-year-old singer and actress will play teenage outlaw Bonnie Parker in the new movie and says she can't wait to get started.

She said: "I'm really excited. I think it's going to be really beautiful. We're shooting in the South, and we want to

really show how hot and dry it is ... and the clothes! It's a tragic love story, and that's what we want to get across.

"People don't realize that they were, like 18 years old doing this. In the version in '67, with Faye Dunaway and Warren Beatty, they were already adults, but Bonnie and Clyde were actually teenagers. So they were very ahead of their time. They were rebels, you know?"

**METRO NEWS  
SERVICES**



## Marital woes sparks house sale?

**PEOPLE** LeAnn Rimes and songwriter husband Dean Sheremet are selling their home outside Nashville, [people.com](http://people.com) reports.

"LeAnn and Dean's home is on the market," the singer's rep confirms of the \$7.45-million US, six-bedroom property.

The decision to sell is not

related to reports that Rimes, 26, allegedly had an affair with her Lifetime TV-movie co-star Eddie Cibrian, 35, a friend of the country singer tells [people.com](http://people.com).



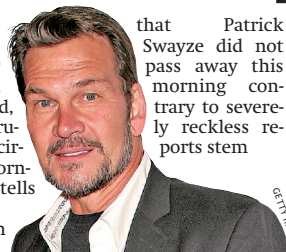
The two are committed to working on their marriage, despite the ups and downs, says the friend. "(They) are still having challenges and trying to work through them."

**METRO  
NEWS SERVICES**

## Swayze's death report false

**STILL GOING** Patrick Swayze, whose battle with pancreatic cancer was first announced last year, has not died, contrary to a false rumour that was widely circulated yesterday morning, the actor's rep tells [people.com](http://people.com) exclusively.

"This is to confirm



that Patrick Swayze did not pass away this morning contrary to severely reckless reports stem

ming from a radio station in Jacksonville, Fla.," says Annett Wolf.

"Patrick Swayze is alive, well and is enjoying his life and he continues to respond to treatment."

**METRO NEWS  
SERVICES**

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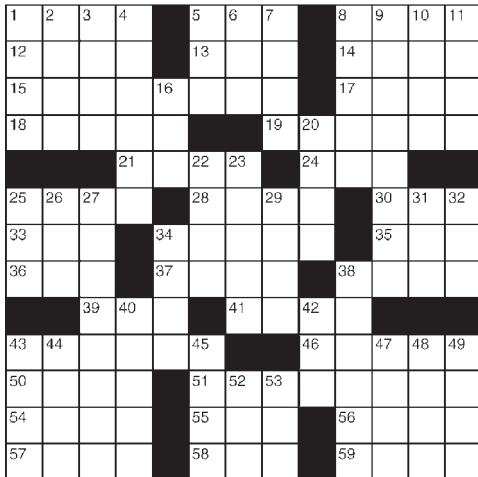
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For more delicious Metro recipes, visit: [metronews.ca/food](http://metronews.ca/food)

## Take Five



### Crossword across

- |                                 |                              |  |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| 1 Bottlenose kin                | 24 Vast expanse              | "helper"                                 |
| 5 Winter ailment                | 25 North American peninsula, | 43 Not digital, as a watch               |
| 8 Reed instrument               | for short                    | 46 Expire, as a subscription             |
| 12 Lummo                        | 28 Persia, now               | 50 Mongolian desert                      |
| 13 — relief                     | 30 Prized possession         | 51 U.S. area where industry once thrived |
| 14 Industrial region of Germany | 33 Ostrich's cousin          | 54 Tel —                                 |
| 15 Household arachnid           | 34 Pizza dough               | 55 Cleo's slayer                         |
| 17 Actress Argento              | 35 Ms. Thurman               | 56 Slender                               |
| 18 Old photo shade              | 36 USO audience              | 57 Assess                                |
| 19 Copies                       | 37 For fear that             | 58 Chesapeake, e.g.                      |
| 21 Skin abnormality             | 38 Call a halt to            | 59 Exile isle                            |
|                                 | 39 Skater Babilonia          |  |
|                                 | 41 Racetrack                 |  |

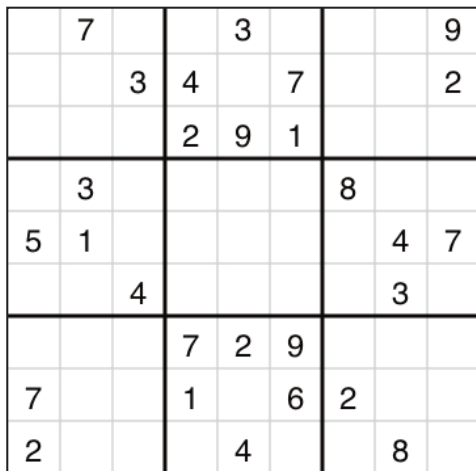
### Crossword down

- |                              |                         |                     |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Automaker                  | 16 Has permission       | 42 Last (Abbr.)     |
| 2 Libertine                  | 20 "Money — everything" | 43 Culture medium   |
| 3 Point                      | 22 Paddock papa         | 44 PBS science show |
| 4 Theseus' land              | 23 Have faith in        | 45 Snatch           |
| 5 Grp. that caught Dillinger | 25 Plead                | 47 Rind             |
| 6 Long. crosser              | 26 Parisian pal         | 48 Thick chunk      |
| 7 Secondhand                 | 27 Very slightly        | 49 Sicilian spouter |
| 8 Speechify                  | 29 Regarding            | 52 — Today          |
| 9 Work really hard (for)     | 31 Comic Philips        | 53 Agent            |
| 10 Columbus is there         | 32 Chart                |                     |
| 11 History chapters          | 34 Advertising award    |                     |
|                              | 38 Not wobbly           |                     |
|                              | 40 Breathing            |                     |

### Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit [metronews.ca](http://metronews.ca)

**HOW TO PLAY:** Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone — one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.



### PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

LIES	GEM	FACE	2	4	6	3	5	8	1	7	9
ANTI	LEI	SNOW	1	5	8	2	7	9	4	3	6
SNAPPERS	HERE		9	7	3	1	4	6	2	8	5
HIE	DRAWER		3	8	4	5	2	1	9	6	7
SHOOT	BEAR		7	1	2	9	6	3	5	4	8
TORN	FLAPPERS		5	6	9	4	8	7	3	1	2
EEC	ORALS	VIE	8	9	1	7	3	2	6	5	4
WRAPPERS	MESA		6	2	5	8	1	4	7	9	3
LANE	PANEL		4	3	7	6	9	5	8	2	1
TAMALE	PEG										
ICON	TRAPPERS										
ERSE	ION	ILIE									
REST	CBS	ELBE									

Find today's answers + play more games at [metronews.ca](http://metronews.ca)

### SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:

Under 13 min	Genius	17-21 min	Smart
13-17 min	Scholar	21-25 min	Not bad
		25+ min	Keep practising

### Metro Recipe of the Day



### Grandma Margaret's Barley Soup

**INGREDIENTS:**  
 3 1/2 cups (875 ml) low-sodium vegetable or beef broth  
 12 oz (375 g) fresh green or wax beans, trimmed and cut into bite-size pieces  
 1 large potato, peeled and cubed  
 1 large yellow onion, chopped  
 2 large carrots, sliced  
 3 bay leaves  
 1/4 tsp (1 ml) each salt and black pepper  
 2 cups (500 ml) bite-size pieces cooked beef, pork or tofu  
 1 can (14 oz/398 ml) low-sodium tomatoes, undrained and cut up  
 1/2 cup (125 ml) quick-cooking barley

1 tsp (5 ml) dried rosemary leaves

#### METHOD:

1. In large pot, combine broth, green beans, potato, onion, carrots, bay leaves, salt and pepper. Bring to boil. Lower heat and simmer, covered, until vegetables are almost tender, 20 minutes.
2. Stir in beef, tomatoes, barley and rosemary. Bring to boil. Lower heat and simmer, covered, until barley is tender, 15 minutes. Discard bay leaves.

**SERVES 6**



### Horoscopes by Sally Brompton

[sallybrompton.com](http://sallybrompton.com)

#### ARIES

**MARCH 21-APRIL 20**  
 Don't be too serious about life — have some fun. As the Sun moves into the most outgoing area of your chart today, you will easily make friends.

#### LIBRA

**SEPT 23-OCT 23**  
 A plan you have been working on in secret is now ready to be revealed. But if you leave it a few days, say until the 24th, the impact will be even greater.

#### TAURUS

**APRIL 21-MAY 21**  
 The sun leaves your birth sign today but that does not mean your luck is about to turn. There will be plenty of good things over the next few days.

#### SCORPIO

**OCT 24-NOV 22**  
 You need to start looking ahead and making plans for the proverbial "rainy day." A bit of forward thinking will do wonders for your peace of mind.

#### GEMINI

**MAY 22-JUNE 21**  
 The sun is beginning its journey through your birth sign but you must be patient. Hold off on your plans until the moon is new at the weekend.

#### SAGITTARIUS

**NOV 23-DEC 21**  
 The sun's transit of the partnership area of your chart over the next few weeks or so will require you to be cooperative rather than combative.

#### CANCER

**JUNE 22-JULY 22**  
 Cancerians are sensitive and cosmic activity around the most introverted area of your chart means it's possible you will withdraw into yourself.

#### CAPRICORN

**DEC 22-JAN 20**  
 This is the ideal time to look more closely at your everyday routines and habits and think of ways you can improve and update them.

#### LEO

**JULY 23-AUG 23**  
 Friendships are of the utmost importance now and it is likely that you will meet someone who becomes your bosom buddy over the next few weeks.

#### AQUARIUS

**JAN 21-FEB 18**  
 The sun's entry into the most dynamic area of your chart today will give you a kick-start to get your big idea off the drawing board and on to the streets.

#### VIRGO

**AUG 24-SEPT 22**  
 The sun's transit of the mid-heaven angle of your chart will bring new opportunities and make you aware of how much more is possible in your work.

#### PISCES

**FEB 19-MARCH 20**  
 You need to get close to someone you have drifted away from emotionally since the start of the year. Make an effort to see their point of view.

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